

REMARKS

The instant preliminary amendment cancels claims 8 and 14-15 without prejudice, amends claims 1-7 and 9-13, and adds new claims 16-19. Accordingly, claims 1-7, 9-13, and 16-19 are presented for examination in the present application.

The specification has been amended to include the headings required by MPEP 608.01(a).

Claims 1-7 and 9-13 have been amended to conform to U.S. practice. Specifically, claims 1-7 and 9-13 have been amended to remove reference numerals, to include the transitional phrase "comprising", to remove multiple dependancies, correct translation errors, and to provide proper antecedent basis to all claim elements. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments merely make explicit what had been implicit in the claims.

Claims 16-19 have been added to point out various aspects of the present application.

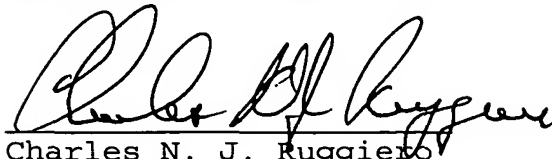
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the title, specification, and claims captioned "Marked Up Version of the Prior Pending Title, Specification and Claims".

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for examination. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and passage of this application to allowance.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below for an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 20, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles N. J. Ruggiero", written over a horizontal line.

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**MARKED UP VERSION OF THE PRIOR PENDING
TITLE, SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS**

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title as follows:

A holding clip for fixing the position of getters [in
containers of random diameter in closed vacuum systems and
container for the insertion in enclosed vacuum system,
especially collector tubes]

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following headings to the specification at
Page 1, after the Title:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following heading to the specification at
Page 2, line 11:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following heading to the specification at
Page 7, line 1:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following heading to the specification at
Page 7, line 26:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 8 and 14-15 without prejudice.
Please amend claims 1-7 and 9-13 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1, 1.4)] for fixing the position of [components (16) which are arranged at least partly as hollow bodies and carry getters in containers (18, 19) of random geometrical cross section for use in vacuum systems,

1.1 with] a getter in an inner surface of a container, comprising:

a first [partial] section [(2; 2.4)] for supporting [the component carrying] the getter; [and]

a second [partial] section [(3) forming a] for supporting [part (4) for support] said first section in the inner surface of the container [(18, 19)]; and

[1.2 with the] a flexurally rigid connection connecting said first and second sections [partial section (2; 2.4) supporting the component carrying the getter being connected with the supporting part by way of a flexurally rigid connection;

1.3 with the partial section supporting the component carrying the getter and the supporting part (4) being provided with a spring-elastic arrangement], wherein said flexurally rigid connection and said first and second sections are elastically deformable to brace the getter in said first section and said second section in said inner surface [so that the component carrying the getter can be braced relative to the partial section supporting the component carrying the getter and the supporting part can be braced relative to the inner surface of the container by elastic deformation].

2. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1; 1.4)] as claimed in claim 1, [characterized in that the springiness of

supporting part (4) and/or the partial section (2; 2.4)]
wherein said first and second sections and/or said flexurally
rigid connection [supporting the component carrying the getter
 can be] have an elastic force set as a function of [the] a
 material and/or [the] a cross section and/or [the] a shape of
 the holding clip.

3. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1; 1.4)] as
 claimed in [one of the claims 1 or 2, characterized by the
 following features:

3.1 the] claim 1, wherein said first [partial] section [(2)
 supporting the component carrying the getter] comprises two
first leg elements [(9, 10) which are], said two first leg
elements being mutually coupled via a connecting element [(8);

3.2 the supporting part (4)]], and wherein said second section
 comprises two second leg elements [(11, 12);

3.3], each of said two first leg elements [(9, 10) of the
 partial section (2) supporting the component carrying the
 getter is] being connected to a respective one of said two
second leg elements [(11, 12) of the supporting part (4);] by
a

[3.4 the connection between the leg elements (11, 12) of the
 supporting part (4) and the leg elements (9, 10) of the
 partial section (2) supporting the component carrying the
 getter occurs through two] flexurally rigid corner[s].

4. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed
 in claim 3, [characterized in that the distance between the]
wherein said two first leg elements [(9, 10) of the partial
 section (2) supporting the component carrying the getter is
 smaller than the distance between the] are spaced from one
another by a first distance and said two second leg elements
 [(11, 12) of the supporting part (4)] are spaced from one

another by a second distance, said first distance being smaller than said second distance.

5. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 3 or 4, characterized in that the] claim 3, wherein said two second leg elements [(11, 12) of the supporting part (4)] extend[s] in an inclined manner from [the end section to the] said flexurally rigid connection [(21) with the partial section (2) supporting the component carrying the getter].

6. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 3 to 5, characterized in that the supporting part (4) and the partial section (2) supporting the component carrying the getter] claim 3, wherein said first and second sections are arranged in a plane.

7. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 3 to 6, characterized in that the cross section of the] claim 3, wherein said two second leg elements [(11, 12) of the supporting part (4) are] have an edge that is rounded off and/or [arranged at least with] beveled [edges].

8. Cancelled without prejudice.

9. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the] claim 1, wherein said second section has an axial extension defines an overall [of the holding clip is characterized by the] axial extension of the [supporting part (4)] holding clip.

10. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the] claim 1, wherein the holding clip has an overall axial extension [of

the holding clip is characterized by the sum] equal to a total of a first axial extension of [the supporting part (4)] said first section and at least [the] a second axial extension of [the partial section (2) supporting the component carrying the getter] said second section.

11. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in claim [10, characterized in that the] 3, wherein said first [partial] section [(2) supporting the component carrying the getter] is arranged at least partly [in the intermediate space] between [the] said two second leg elements [(11, 12) of the supporting part (4)].

12. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the same are] claim 1, wherein the holding clip is formed from a wire.

13. (Currently amended) A holding clip [(1)] as claimed in [one of the claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the same] claim 1, wherein the holding clip is formed from a spring steel sheet of low width and small cross section.

14. Cancelled without prejudice.

15. Cancelled without prejudice.